GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:843
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2001
DIRECT FLIGHTS ON NEW DELHI PATNA SECTOR
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no direct flight from New Delhi to Patna in summer;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by the Government to introduce a direct New Delhi-Patna flight during summer season; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken for the extension of Patna Airport runway to provide the modern aircraft landing facilities?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b) and (c): Patna is airlinked by the following scheduled air service on daily basis:-

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Indian Airlines:  Mumbai-Delhi-Patna-Ranchi & return
Alliance Air:     Delhi-Lucknow-Patna-Kolkata & return
Sahara Airlines:  Delhi-Patna-Varanasi-Delhi
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In the proposed summer schedule effective 25.3.2001, no change is contemplated. However, during the period April to June to avoid load penalty at Patna airfield due to high temprature, the Mumbai-Delhi-Patna-Ranchi service ofIndian Airlines is generally temporarily rerouted to operate on Mumbai-Delhi-Ranchi-Patna and return.

(d) Patna airport developed as `model Airport` suitable for operation by Airbus A-320 class of aircraft with load penalty is equipped with Non Direction Beacon (NDB), Visual Omni Range (VOR), Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) and Instrument Landing System (ILS).It has passenger facilities to cater to 400 domestic and 100 international passengers at a time. However, on the issue of additional land required for construction of new runway, the State Government of Bihar has expressed their inability due to cutting of large number of trees in Sanjay Gandhi Zoological Garden that would disturb the environment.The State Govt. has, however, agreed to hand over the land (being used as Dhobi Ghat) on the eastern side of the airport for full utilization of existing runway. The proposal is under examination. The State Govt. has also suggested for shifting of airport to Bihta by bearing the cost of widening and improvement of approach road from Khagol to Bihta.